Children safeguard from Diseases

1267. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UNICEF has reported that the time has come to put an end to neglect of children;

(b) if so, whether according to the report 40,000 young children die every day and for millions more remain malnourished, blinded, suffer from brain damage and are disabled;

(c) whether a number of measures have been suggested to overcome the problem; and

(d) whether Government have examined the report and the measures suggested to ensure safeguard the health of young children during the Seventh Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The measures suggested by UNICEF in the report are for the World as a whole. To safeguard the interest of children, Government of India have already taken steps in the field of immunisation, promotion of breastfeeding, proper weaning practices, Oral rehydration therapy for control of dehydration in diarrhoea, growth monitoring birth spacing as suggested by UNICEF in the ongoing health programmes and in ICDS projects run by Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Sethusamundram Project

1268. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tamil Nadu Government has approached the Central Government to speedily clear and execute the Sethusamundram Project at Rameshwaram so that Ships sailing from the east-coast to the west-coast do not have to go around Sri Lanka any longer;

(b) whether the project has since been cleared by the Central Government and if not, what are the reasons for the delay; and

(c) by when this project is likely to be cleared by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The project has not been included in the 7th Five Year Plan.

Corruption/mismanagement in DTC

1269. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been rampant corruption, mismanagement, faulty policies and lack of foresight in the working of the Delhi Transport Corporation;

(b) whether Government have inquired into the working of Delhi Transport Corporation;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to improve the working of D.T.C.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) The performance of D.T.C. is reviewed by the Government at different levels from time to time. The management policies are laid down after careful considerations. Whenever any case of irregu-